

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 152

By McDonald

A RESOLUTION to congratulate Dewayne Oldham upon being named the Westmoreland Citizen of the Year.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly salute those citizens who, through their remarkable efforts, have distinguished themselves as community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such estimable individual is Dewayne Oldham, who was recently named the Westmoreland Citizen of the Year; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Oldham is an astute and dedicated community leader who has earned the respect of his peers and the citizens he serves for the exemplary quality of his work; and

WHEREAS, a native of Smith County, Dewayne Oldham graduated from Smith County High School; and

WHEREAS, he served with valor and distinction in the United States Navy during the Vietnam War and, after serving his time in the Navy, he attended a church service one day in Westmoreland and met a woman named Sheila, whom he would later marry; and

WHEREAS, Dewayne and Sheila Oldham dated for two years and, before they were joined in marriage in 1972, Sheila encouraged Dewayne to attend college with her; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Oldham earned a Bachelor of Science degree from Middle Tennessee State University in 1976 and began teaching history at Westmoreland High School, where he served with acumen and alacrity and earned the respect of his peers and superiors alike for the exemplary quality of his work; and

WHEREAS, he later went on to earn a Master of Education degree, as well as an Educational Specialist degree in educational leadership; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Oldham eventually became the assistant principal at Gallatin Junior High School, then he served as the assistant principal at Westmoreland High School before becoming the principal, the position in which he has served for the last twenty-four years and the position from which he is retiring; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure as principal at Westmoreland High School, Mr. Oldham has served on numerous leadership committees at the board of education; and

WHEREAS, his professional accomplishments aside, Dewayne Oldham is an active and devout member of his church; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Oldham is also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavors to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, he is most proud of the love and companionship he shares with his wife of thirty-eight years, Sheila, and his children; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Oldham plans to enjoy his retirement with his wife by traveling, doing mission work, reading, boating, and taking care of his grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, the greater Westmoreland community and the State of Tennessee are undoubtedly better places to live because of the life and service of Dewayne Oldham; and

WHEREAS, the success of the State of Tennessee, the strength of our communities, and the overall vitality of our society depend, in great measure, on the dedication of people like Mr. Oldham who use their considerable talents and resources to serve others; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to acknowledge and applaud Dewayne Oldham for his many contributions to the good people of Tennessee, his unwavering commitment to others, and his astute leadership in Westmoreland; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor Dewayne Oldham upon being named the Westmoreland Citizen of the Year, commend his outstanding record of volunteerism, leadership, and

community spirit, and extend to him our best wishes for every continued success and much happiness in all his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.